

U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
NEBRASKA

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
IRRIGATION PIPELINE**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____ GPS _____

County _____ NRD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program. Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS assistance. The landuser is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

Operation is operating the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components, which fail.

Necessary operation and maintenance items for this practice include:

- ☐ Check to make sure all valves and air vents are set at the proper operating condition so they may provide protection to the pipeline. Remove all foreign debris that hinders valves, control gates, or overall system operation.
- ☐ Maintain the design depth of cover over the pipeline and backfill around structures.
- ☐ Limit traffic over the pipeline to designated section that was designed for traffic loads. Avoid travel over pipelines by tillage equipment when the soil is saturated.
- ☐ Avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the pipeline.
- ☐ Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height.
- ☐ Draining the system and components in areas that are subject to freezing. If parts of the system cannot be drained, an antifreeze solution may be added.

- ☐ Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
- ☐ Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.
- ☐ Check exterior coatings on aboveground and on-ground pipeline installations. Repair any damage immediately.
- ☐ Where sacrificial anodes are used for cathodic protection, check their condition on a regular basis as outlined in special O & M requirements. Replace as necessary.

Special operation and maintenance requirements: _____

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